

# Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

*Planning Update Number 4, October 2011*



*Canada goose with brood*

## Thank You for Your Comments!

We greatly appreciate the involvement and interest that the public has shown in this Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge planning process. We hope that you will continue to be involved when the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (Draft CCP/EIS) is released in the Spring of 2012 for public review and comment.

We received nearly 350 comments regarding the Preliminary Alternatives that were developed for review and feedback and released in May 2011. Based on comments, we will be making substantial changes to the range of alternatives and the preferred alternative. We're striving to find a balance between the needs of wildlife and the needs of recreational interests.

This planning update briefly summarizes some of the comments that will result in changes to the action alternatives. See page 2 for details.

## Where We Are in the CCP Process



<b>Wake Zones and No-Wake zones</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ No-wake zone in Preliminary Alternative 3 could negatively affect anglers.</li> <li>■ Low water closes the boat launches in the West Pool earlier than launches in the East Pool.</li> <li>■ Concentrating wake uses in the west pool may be unsafe.</li> <li>■ Provide a no-wake buffer along the shoreline.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide a wake zone in the East Pool.</li> <li>■ Provide a no-wake buffer along some portions of the shoreline.</li> </ul>
<b>Closed Areas</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Closure of the emergent beds on the south side and/or the current no-wake zone at east end could negatively affect anglers.</li> <li>■ Provide seasonal closures around identified nesting areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Closures around migratory bird nesting areas only.</li> </ul>
<b>Kite Boarding and Windsurfing</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Gotts Point and Parking Lot 3 are preferred launch sites.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allow launching from these sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Fishing</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Don't require the use of non-lead fishing tackle or barbless hooks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allow use of lead fishing tackle and barbed hooks.</li> </ul>
<b>Hunting</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Don't reduce hunting area.</li> <li>■ Don't close the lake early to provide a youth hunt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Maintain the same area for hunting. Separate upland and waterfowl hunters by time, not space.</li> <li>■ Provide a youth waterfowl hunt as proposed in Preliminary Alternative 2.</li> </ul>
<b>Gotts Point</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Some people want Gotts Point opened to vehicles and some do not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Open to vehicles under agreement with the County Sheriff, or increase accessible trails, or open vehicle access to disabled visitors.</li> </ul>
<b>Horseback Riding</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allow horses on the Refuge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allow horseback riding on designated trails</li> </ul>

There are a lot of interesting

**For more information and additional events, visit our website:**  
**<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat>**

**Date: Tuesday, Dec 13    Time: 7 PM**  
Insects as Indicators of a Healthy Ecosystem. Discover the effects of fire disturbance and rehabilitation treatments on insect communities in sagebrush-steppe habitats. Ashley Rohde, BSU Graduate Student.

## A woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a yellow and orange striped dress, is holding a grey dog. She is standing on a brick floor in front of a display of books. A young child is sitting in a green chair in the foreground, looking at the woman. A white bag with a red logo is on the floor next to the woman. The background shows a large potted plant and more books on display.

© Robert Allen

**Date: Wednesday & Thursday, Dec 28-29      Time: 1-4 PM (both days)**  
Do squirrels have sleeping bags? Do bears have space heaters? Do geese eat at restaurants? Then how do they survive the challenges of winter? Children in second through fourth grades are invited to attend this two-day, interactive winter day camp. Must pre-register.



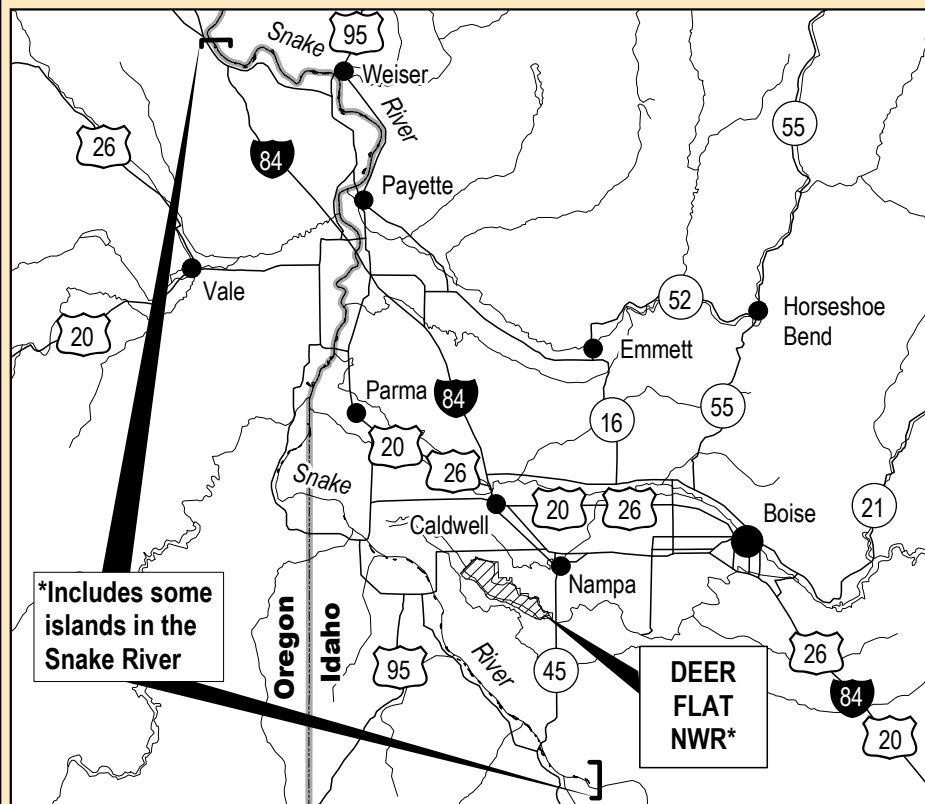
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge  
13751 Upper Embankment Road  
Nampa, Idaho 83686

Visit Our Planning Website: <http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/refugeplanning.html>

Have you moved? If so, please send us  
your updated address. Thank You

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## Vicinity Map



## What's Next?

*Upcoming Public Involvement Opportunities and Milestones*

### Spring 2012

- Public review of Draft CCP.
- Public outreach
- Planning Update #5

### Fall 2012

- Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision completed

### Winter/Spring 2013

- Distribution of final CCP
- Final Planning Update